

Next Meeting: Monday February 25, 2013 at 7:00 PM

Rights of Way of the Town of Rockport

Minutes of the Meeting of January 28, 2013

Approved

Rockport Town Hall

Meeting called to order 7:00 PM, Susan Thurson presiding.

Members Present:

Phyllis Krenn, Tom Kerans, Bill Mueller, Marcia Siegel, Susan Thurson, and Mary Devaney

Members Absent: Jane Moginot, Marc and Mary Prince

Associate Members: Ted Tarr present, Christina Wolfe absent

Guests: Bill and Elaine Somers of Stockholm Avenue,

Announcements: None

Previous Minutes:

November 2012 Minutes were reviewed and approved with changes.

Management Report:

No change. \$2304.00 in account.

Old Business:

Atlantic Path:

Situation:

1. Marcia Siegel and Susan Thurson walked the Atlantic Path and found the situation at the Curtis property unchanged.
2. Mr. Curtis was invited to this meeting, but is not present.

Discussion:

1. Opinions differed among committee members on what action to take and degree of firmness in response to Mr. Curtis's ignoring of the Town Administrator's letter and failure to remove paint signs from rocks.
2. It was suggested that a letter should be written requesting that if he is unable to attend the next ROW meeting 2/25/2013, the committee will have no alternative but to take the action to clear the path. The letter should state the problems which Mr. Curtis has created, including placing no trespassing signs and painting signs redirecting the path.

- Mr. Curtis has unilaterally redirected the path which is documented as owned by the town and is cited as such in his deed.
3. Referred to the Town Administrator's assistant for action.

Reeds Lane:

Situation:

1. Bill Mueller spoke with Joe Parisi, DPW regarding storm drain, then went and cleared the drain himself.
2. Mr. Dello Russo had a survey done and found boundaries to be the same as those on the assessor's map.
3. Bill suggested we consider moving Reeds Lane 10 feet to the north as a way to combat flooding of the path.
4. Bill suggested working on Reed's Lane as a project for the High School Environmental Club. Work would include clearing and cleaning the path and enlarging and marking the turnaround rest area.
5. Marcia suggested we have a written plan by Earth Day.
6. Discussion followed on possible solutions to erosion and wetness on the path.

Action:

1. Field Trip was scheduled for Wednesday January 30, 2013 at 3:00 PM.
2. Wetness, erosion, flooding and possible moving of the path will be considered.

Hillside Road

Situation:

1. Reported setback has occurred. Attorney John J. Goldrosen of Kopelman and Paige, P.C., stated his opinion that the right of way problem is "a dispute among the neighbors".
2. On February 5, 2013 Attorney Dwight Ware will make a presentation to the Selectmen with research going back to 1900 that Hillside Road is a Statutory right of way/private way open to public.
3. Joe Parady, Bill and Elaine Somers are working with Attorney Ware.
4. Neighbor Joe Parady will also speak supporting retention of the road.
5. Reportedly, Fire Warden Mike Frontiero considers the loss of access a danger to residents, as Hillside is a documented fire road.

Action:

1. The Rights of Way Committee, according to its' mission statement, has a responsibility to try to save this right of way.

2. ROW members will attend the Selectmen's Meeting, February 5, 2013.

Front Beach Stairs: postponed

Lane's Farm: postponed

Steel Derrick: postponed

New Business:

Cape Ann Trail Stewards

1. CAT (Cape Ann Trail Stewards) is in process of being incorporated.
2. Report by Ted Tarr.

Captains/Overseers Reports

Signs:

1. Phyllis Krenn will order signs for Atlantic Path and Andrew's Woods.
2. Flat Rock Poiint Sign stored in barn at DPW.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Next Regular Meeting:

Monday February 25, 2013 at 7:00 PM, Town Hall, Conf. Rm. A

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Devaney